



# LESSON FIVE: ALL ABOUT CARLSBAD

## OVERVIEW

The students are introduced to Carlsbad as a city; its history and its current structure.

## OBJECTIVES

The students will:

- Learn why, how and when Carlsbad became a city.
- Learn that a city has a specific organizational structure.
- Recognize that the City of Carlsbad, like the United States of America, operates as a democracy in which the majority rules.

## PREPARATION

Review both activities and materials. Remember that this is the first “Carlsbad-specific” lesson. As such, it is a lesson in which many of the terms in the Carlsbad Rap will be defined.

Also remember (especially if you are in an EUSD or SMUSD school) that there will be children who live in other cities, so when possible, you will want to relate how Carlsbad is similar to and differs from its neighbors. For instance, each city has a city seal, but they are all different.

Display the CityStuff banner, the City Council Photo Chart, and start off with the Rap.

## MATERIALS

- City Council Photo Chart
- 25/35 Carlsbad pencils
- 25/35 copies of “Carlsbad Becomes a City”
- 1 class City of Carlsbad Organization Chart
- 1 class City Seal
- 25/35 copies of student My City Seals
- 1 bag of mosaics
- 25/35 mosaic cups

## CONCEPTS

History • Carlsbad government • Democracy

## SKILLS

Spelling • Listening • Reading out loud • Art creation

## VOCABULARY

**Mayor:** the elected official who heads the five-member City Council. The Mayor is the chief spokesperson for the Council and appoints people to the many volunteer boards and commissions that help the Council make good decisions for Carlsbad. The Mayor and Council members may be women or men.

**Incorporation:** to formally become a city with a local government.

**Annex:** to take over as your own.

## TIME

Introduction/Rap: 10 minutes

“Carlsbad Becomes a City” booklet: 20 minutes

What Carlsbad Job Would You Like To Do?: 20 minutes

City Seal Discussion/Creation: 10 minutes

## PRESENTATION

Start off with at least the first verse plus refrain of the Carlsbad Rap. (If there is time and inclination, do the entire Rap.) Explain that many of the ideas in the Rap will be explored in this lesson.

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## LESSON FIVE: ALL ABOUT CARLSBAD

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### ACTIVITY A: “CARLSBAD BECOMES A CITY”

Hand out copies of the “Carlsbad Becomes a City” booklet. Go around the class, calling on students to stand and read a page. (In classrooms with more than 20 students, separate the longer pages into sections so everyone has a chance to read.)

Note: Check with the classroom teacher before beginning this activity. To avoid embarrassing any students, have the better readers read the longer sections. Ask the less accomplished readers to read the shorter sections.

Optional ShortTales Assignment: S is for Seal, pages 48-49.

#### **INFORMATION TO IMPART ABOUT OTHER CITIES**

- Oceanside, Vista, Encinitas and San Marcos are neighboring cities to Carlsbad.
- These cities all have their own city seals, employees and Mayors/City Councils, but they all operate in the same democratic way.
- Many roads go from city to city to city. Some examples are El Camino Real and Palomar Airport Road/San Marcos Boulevard.
- Some children who live in San Marcos, Vista, Encinitas and Oceanside go to school in Carlsbad. (Ask: Do any of you?)

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### ACTIVITY B: “WHAT CITY JOB WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO?”

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITY IS A WORK IN PROGRESS! WE ARE ADDING THIS IMPORTANT MATERIAL AND PILOTING WAYS TO PRESENT IT. WE APPRECIATE YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND WELCOME YOUR CRITIQUE AFTER THE CURRICULUM ENDS, SO WE CAN IMPROVE THE MATERIAL FOR 2008.

#### **SECTION ONE: Explore the Organization Chart**

Display the class-size City of Carlsbad Organization Chart. Explain that all of Carlsbad’s 1,000 full-time and part-time employees – as well as many volunteers – fill spots in this chart.

If you are a City employee, you can explain your job when you arrive at your department. You may also choose to have a City employee visit your class to talk about their job. Contact Marilyn Campbell at 439-3716 or wrte4fn@cox.net for assistance in arranging for a City guest.

Tell the students they will explore the City of Carlsbad’s organizational structure so they will understand how the City functions on behalf of Carlsbad residents, businesses and visitors. Advise them to think about what City job they might want to do as they go through the chart.

Here is a brief outline of the organization chart to put in your own words. This is background information; it does not need to be imparted in its entirety to the students. You may choose to explicate it in brief as you point to the different elements.

You are encouraged to present the material interactively, by asking questions. Examples: Who reports to the City Manager? To whom does the City Manager report? How many MSAs are there? What department handles crime prevention?

This organization chart shows how the City operates.

- Most employees report to the City Manager.
- The City Manager reports to the City Council.
- The City Attorney reports to the City Council.
- The City Council reports to everyone who lives in Carlsbad. That means you!

#### **ELECTORATE ...**

The word, electorate, means voters. These people are U.S. citizens who live in Carlsbad, are at least 18 years of age and are eligible to vote.

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## LESSON FIVE: ALL ABOUT CARLSBAD

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### **CITY COUNCIL (MAYOR AND FOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS), CITY CLERK, CITY TREASURER ...**

These people are elected by Carlsbad voters (the electorate) to serve the City of Carlsbad.

### **BOARDS, COMMISSIONS and COMMITTEES ...**

City Council members do not have enough time to learn every single detail on each complicated issue, such as beach erosion or traffic safety. They rely on volunteers who are appointed to the City's 15 advisory boards, commissions and committees. The City Council appoints Carlsbad citizens to serve on these advisory organizations. The members study and discuss the issues. Then they offer their recommendations to the City Council.

### **CITY MANAGER ...**

The City Manager is appointed by the City Council to supervise City employees and handle the day-to-day operations of the City.

### **CITY ATTORNEY ...**

Carlsbad has a City Attorney who advises the City Council and management. A big City such as Carlsbad needs more than one attorney. The City Attorney supervises other attorneys who work for the City. Together, they handle the City's many legal issues.

### **MAJOR SERVICE AREAS**

The City is organized into five Major Service Areas; called MSAs, for short.

- Each MSA has a director who supervises all employees in that area and who handles day-to-day operations of that MSA.
- The Public Safety MSA has someone in charge of each of its two major departments: a Police Chief and a Fire Chief.
- MSA directors report to the City Manager.
- Together, the MSA directors, the City Manager and the City Attorney are called the Leadership Team.
- The Leadership Team meets weekly, so its members can share what is happening in their specific areas and discuss things of importance to the City.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY MSA**

The Police Department protects the rights of everyone in Carlsbad. It is committed to preserving life and property, and to maintaining law and order.

- The Police Chief manages all police employees.
- Community-oriented police officers do everything from citing motorists driving unsafely to helping keep children away from drugs and gangs.
- Some police officers drive police cars. Others patrol on motorcycle or even on bicycle.
- The department also handles crime prevention and other programs.

The Fire Department safeguards people's lives, property and the environment in Carlsbad.

- The Fire Chief manages all fire employees and oversees the operations of the six fire stations in Carlsbad.
- Some employees are paramedics as well as firefighters.
- Department employees fight fires and respond to medical emergencies. They help victims of traffic accidents, heart attacks and other emergencies. They are always ready for anything.
- The department also handles fire prevention and other programs.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MSA**

Administrative Services is the backbone of the City organization. It supports the City by handling people, information and money. The Administrative Director oversees the following departments and staff.

- Finance handles the annual City budgets, purchasing and other financial issues. It keeps track of where the City's money comes from and where it goes.
- Human Resources recruits, hires and trains employees.
- Information Systems takes care of the computers and phones.
- Records Management keeps track of City Council agendas and other important City documents.
- Risk Management handles insurance and related matters to make sure the City operates in a safe manner.

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## LESSON FIVE: ALL ABOUT CARLSBAD

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### **PUBLIC WORKS MSA**

Public Works designs, builds, operates and maintains many things – from smooth roads to clean water systems – that keep Carlsbad a nice place to live. The Public Works Director oversees the following departments and staff.

- Parks Maintenance keep parks green and clean.
- Building Maintenance keeps City facilities up and running.
- Street Maintenance repairs potholes and upgrades roads.
- Fleet Maintenance keeps City vehicles operating.
- Water and Sewer Maintenance manages water meters and monitors the sewer system.
- Environmental Programs handles recycling, helps prevent litter and graffiti, makes sure trash is disposed of properly and protects the storm drain system from pollution.
- Engineering provides many services to the public and to other City departments. Transportation engineers, for instance, study traffic on a street to determine if stop signs are needed.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MSA**

Community Development guides the development of the City. It works with residents, businesses and workers to enhance people's health, safety, welfare and quality of life. The Community Development Director oversees the following departments and staff.

- Building inspects everything from room additions in a house to a big commercial facility, to make sure the work is performed safely to code.
- Planning reviews plans for everything from one family's new home to a development with hundreds of new homes, to make sure plans meet City requirements and the building will not harm the environment.
- Economic Development attracts new businesses to Carlsbad and helps keep existing businesses in town.
- Housing and Redevelopment oversees the downtown Village. It also helps provide affordable housing; that way, people who work in Carlsbad can find places where they can afford to live in Carlsbad.
- Geographic Information Systems places the City's roads, parks and other places on maps.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES MSA**

Community Services provides lifelong learning opportunities, safe places for people to gather, and ways for people to pursue health, fitness and fun. The Assistant City Manager serves as the Director of Community Services, overseeing the following departments and staff.

- The Arts Office presents jazz in the parks, public art, the Cannon Art Gallery and arts education programs.
- The Library has many facilities. There are two big Libraries: the Cole and the Dove. The Centro de Información offers services for Spanish-speaking people. The Adult Learning Program helps people improve their reading and writing skills.
- The Recreation Department has something for everyone, from toddlers to great-grandparents. It offers many activities in City parks and at the pool.
- The Senior Center is for people who are at least 55 years old. Many people come to take classes, to eat lunch and to enjoy the company of other seniors.

## **SECTION TWO: My City Job**

Ask the students to think about what City job they might want to do. Call on students individually to come to the front of the classroom. Ask them to:

- Name their job.
- Point out their job on the organization chart, saying what MSA and department it is in.
- Explain why they would like to do this job.

Assign the Short Tale, "What City Job Would You Like To Do" from pages 64-65 of Carlsbad Short Tales. The students can complete this in class or on their own.

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## LESSON FIVE: ALL ABOUT CARLSBAD

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### ACTIVITY C: “LET’S LEARN ABOUT THE CITY SEAL”

There are two sections to this activity. First, the students will learn about the Carlsbad City Seal. Then, they will create their own, on class time with the help of the teacher. NOTE: Ask your classroom teacher beforehand if the students can complete this activity on their own. Be sure to provide the materials.

#### SECTION ONE

Post the large color Carlsbad City Seal where students can easily view it. With the help of the students, point out and discuss each element of the seal. (See Fast Facts 101, #s 42 and 43 for additional information.)

Introduce the concept: In 1958, the City held a contest to design a City Seal, with a prize of \$25 awarded to the winner. Major Albert F. Rinehart’s design won. It incorporated several symbols that the City Council thought best represented the City of Carlsbad.

Tell students that they will see different renditions of the City Seal next week when they take a field trip to City Hall. A tile mosaic is displayed in City Council Chambers. A Lego mosaic is displayed at City Hall.

#### EXPLANATION OF SEAL ELEMENTS

Point to the elements (or have students come up and help you) and discuss their significance, one by one:

- The triad (three connected triangles) represents the three elements that oversee Carlsbad City government: 1) the Mayor; 2) the other four Council Members; and 3) the City Manager.
- The hatchet in the triad is a longtime symbol of democratic government. The inclusion of the hatchet may derive from the Iroquois Indians’ “Great Law of Peace.” According to this Native American legend, a Peacemaker brought warring people together and told the warriors to bury their weapons – thus the phrase, “bury the hatchet.” Seen this way, the hatchet represents a democracy in which disagreements do not lead to violence. (In our next lesson, the students will learn first-hand how people may disagree in a respectful manner.)
- The three elements around the triad represent features that make Carlsbad a uniquely delightful place to live.
- At the top, the sun and sea represent the great climate and coastal location.
- At the bottom left is the City’s official flower, the bird-of-paradise. (If you visit the northeast corner sidewalk of Carlsbad Village Drive and Carlsbad Boulevard, you’ll see artist James Hubbell’s bird-of-paradise artwork in a tile mosaic).
- At the bottom right is a cornucopia, which symbolizes the many food crops once grown in Carlsbad.

#### SECTION TWO

NOTE: Please give this sheet, along with the student seals, mosaics and cups to the teacher. Pass out the black-and-white City Seals, one to each student. Note that, with the exception of the words “City of Carlsbad” and “California,” they are purposely blank inside.

Tell the students that now it’s time for them to create their own mosaic of a City Seal!

Ask them: What do you think makes Carlsbad a great place for people to live, work, play and go to school? Decide what is important to you about Carlsbad. This would be your symbol of Carlsbad. It shows what in Carlsbad is important to you.

#### OPTIONAL INFORMATION

If there is time, you can share this information about mosaics. Mosaic art dates back hundreds of years. People from many cultures and countries around the world have made mosaic art works. Ancient mosaics can be found in places such as Egypt, Europe, and North and South America.

A mosaic is an artwork that resembles a puzzle. It is made by fitting together small pieces of colored objects such as tile, glass, stone or (what we are going to use today) paper. The objects are called “tesserae” – pronounced teh’-sur-ray. Often, the objects have small spaces between them. Typically, mosaics are very bright and colorful.

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## LESSON FIVE: ALL ABOUT CARLSBAD

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### **CREATE YOUR OWN CITY SEAL**

Tell the students: Draw your symbol inside the blank City Seal circle. Make sure to draw it BIG. Don't draw too many small details that would get hidden in the mosaic.

Hand out sufficient paper tiles in each cup to each student. The students should have their own glue sticks. If not, they can share the glue sticks included in the kits.

Tell the students: Use the paper mosaics to decorate your symbol and the entire City Seal.

Encourage them to get creative with their use of colors. Tell them to put their name on the paper and to write a short explanation of their symbol and what it means to them.

### **SHOW AND TELL**

As time allows, have the students come to the front of the classroom. Ask them to name their symbol and explain why they chose it.

*NOTE: IN THE FUTURE, WE MAY COLLECT AND DISPLAY SOME OF THE OUTSTANDING CITY SEALS. YOU MIGHT WANT TO CAPTURE ONE OR MORE IN A PHOTOGRAPH FOR USE IN A CITYSTUFF PUBLICATION.*